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COUNTY OF PEEBLES  
AND BURGHS OF  
PEEBLES AND INNERLEITHEN

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Annual Report

*by*

The Medical Officer of Health

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Year 1949



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AND BURGHS OF  
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# STAFF

## JOINTLY WITH MIDLOTHIAN COUNTY COUNCIL AND SMALL BURGHS AUTHORITIES.

Medical Officer of Health :

JOHN RIDDELL, M.D., D.P.H.

## JOINTLY WITH MIDLOTHIAN COUNTY COUNCIL.

Depute Medical Officer of Health :

HAROLD J. FRASER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers :

J. WALLACE GORDON, L.R.C.P. & L.R.C.S. (Edin.), D.P.H., L.D.S.

\* BETTY C. HAMILTON, L.R.C.P. & L.R.C.S. (Edin.), D.P.H., L.D.S.

† CHARLOTTE E. FORSYTH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Dental Officer :

ROBERT P. NEILSON, L.D.S.

Nursing Superintendent :

MISS P. BENNETT.

Milk Officer :

MISS H. B. SWORD.

Clerks :

MISS J. PATERSON.

† MISS D. SMAIL.

MISS J. BORTHWICK.

† R. FULTON.

\* MISS E. A. MELROSE.

† MISS M. BRIEN.

\* MISS F. M. MILLAN.

† MISS D. EATON.

MISS A. N. WHYTE (Transferred).

## PEEBLES COUNTY.

County Sanitary Inspector :

JAS. M. M. FERGUSON.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

WILLIAM A. DUNLOP.

Health Visitor :

MISS A. DOULL.

Health Visitor—District Nurse Midwives :

\* MRS E. HOGG.

MISS C. FORBES.

MISS M. S. RAMAGE.

† MISS K. MATTHEW.

MISS A. V. STEELE.

District Nurse Midwives :

MISS J. C. SUMMERFIELD.

MISS M. F. SNEDDON.

## PEEBLES BURGHS.

Burgh Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector :

E. S. DUNCAN.


## INNERLEITHEN BURGHS.

Burgh Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector :

WILLIAM F. THOMSON.

\* Resigned during year.

† Appointed during year.



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## P R E F A C E

In the Report for 1948 I indicated that the health services, following on the introduction of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act in July, 1948, were still in a state of flux. During 1949 various minor difficulties have appeared and been overcome, and while some of the major difficulties anticipated have not materialised, others have forced themselves on our notice only too prominently.

This is particularly the case in respect of tuberculosis. While it is true that the death-rate from tuberculosis has fallen, this was to be expected from the introduction of the numerous new drugs and methods now being used in the treatment of this condition, and it yet remains to be seen whether the reduction is permanent or only a delayed incidence of mortality. More important is the fact that the number of cases found is still rising. It is true that improved and more widespread use of diagnostic methods may partly account for this, but there does seem to be a true increase. The Local Health Authorities, with their duties in connection with housing, mass radiography, B.C.G. vaccination, and general education of the public, have a heavy burden but a marvellous opportunity. It is admitted that an adequate hospital service is invaluable, but much may be done even if it is lacking. The responsibility for the elimination of tuberculosis, as with diphtheria, rests on the local authorities. If it is tackled as a major issue, they will succeed; if they do not put forth every effort, they will fail.

Much attention has continued to be paid to diphtheria immunisation and it is a pleasure to record that there was only one case during the year, and that 90% of the children under 15 years of age in the County are now protected.

Additional responsibility has fallen on the Health Department since vaccination against smallpox was made voluntary. Through lack of their personal experience of the disease it is more difficult to persuade parents to safeguard their children against this than against diphtheria, but it is equally important, and the fact that 83% of children under 5 years of age in the County are vaccinated is very satisfactory, though we hope it may still be improved.

In making both these measures so successful, we are greatly indebted, not only to the nursing staff but to the family doctors for their invaluable assistance.

Since the nursing services were taken over by the County Council, and the staff slightly increased, it is noteworthy

that there has been a considerable increase in the sick nursing work undertaken, the nurses having paid 9,495 such visits in 1949 as against 5,944 in 1948. There was much leeway to be made up here, and the work will probably increase still further as the nurses gradually include more work of a welfare nature among the old people.

Care of the elderly has been much in the thoughts of the Council during the year and various measures are under review, including the formulation of a Scheme for Domestic Helps.

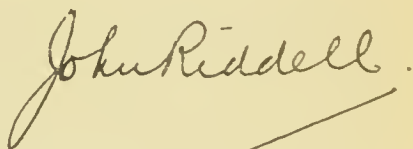
Owing to staffing and other limitations, the dental care of mothers and young children is still in an embryonic state, but we are looking forward to an expansion shortly.

Milk production has received considerable attention, and it is noteworthy that samples of supplies from twenty-one ungraded producers when tested biologically for tuberculosis all proved to be free from infection.

With the increase in sanitary staff it has been possible to devote more time to the supervision of meat supplies with worth-while results, and it has also allowed us to meet the requirements of inspection under the Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1948.

Attention has continued to be paid to improvement of water supplies, and schemes to improve scavenging arrangements are well forward. The problem of adequate control of vans and sheds used as human habitations will call for decisive action at an early date.

It is with the greatest pleasure that I once more acknowledge the wholehearted co-operation of all members of the County and Burgh Staffs and the continued inspiration of the members of the Health and Education Committees and the County Council.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "John Riddell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

*Medical Officer of Health.*

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
10 DRUMSHEUGH GARDENS,  
EDINBURGH, 3.

27th April, 1950.

# COUNTY OF PEEBLES.

## VITAL STATISTICS, YEAR 1949.

	Peebles County.	Inner- leithen Burgh.	Peebles Burgh.	Land- ward Area.
Population, Census 1931 ...	15,051	2,359	5,853	6,839
Population estimated 1949 ...	15,101	2,325	6,022	6,754
Live Births (corrected) ...	253	39	107	107
Illegitimate Births (corrected) ...	13	1	6	6
Still Births (corrected) ...	4	—	3	1
Deaths (corrected) ...	208	26	110	72
Infantile Deaths (corrected) ...	9	—	5	4
Marriages Registered ...	94	19	49	26

### BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

(Landward and Burghal) per 1,000 of Population.

	1949.	1948.	Scotland *
Birth Rate (corrected) ...	16.8	17.9	17.4
Death Rate All Causes (corrected) ...	13.8	13.8	11.9
Death Rate Tuberculosis (corrected) ...	.46	.40	.46
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live Births	36.0	22.0	39.0
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total births ...	16.0	15.0	26.0

\* Excluding Large Burghs.

### Ages at Death.

Number of Deaths in the various age groups during 1949.

	Peebles County.	Innerleithen Burgh.	Peebles Burgh.	Landward Area.
Under 1 ...	9	—	5	4
1—4 ...	1	—	1	—
5—9 ...	—	—	—	—
10—14 ...	1	—	1	—
15—24 ...	1	1	—	—
25—34 ...	2	1	—	1
35—44 ...	7	1	2	4
45—54 ...	16	1	8	7
55—64 ...	25	7	10	8
65—74 ...	61	6	34	21
75—84 ...	62	6	40	16
85 and over ...	23	3	9	11
All Ages	208	26	110	72

### Infantile Mortality.

Deaths classified according to age groups: —

	Under 1 week	1 to 4 weeks	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 12 months	Total
Congenital Malformation ...	—	1	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis and Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	1	—	1
Prematurity ...	3	—	—	—	—	3
Intracranial Hæmorrhage ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
Asphyxia ...	—	—	1	—	—	1
Difficult Labour ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
Other ...	—	—	1	—	—	1
Total	5	1	2	1	—	9

# CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Inner- Peebles County.	Leithen Burgh.	Peebles Burgh.	Land- ward Area.
Typhoid Fever (including Para-typhoid)	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	6	1	2	3
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	1	—	1	—
Syphilis ... ..	—	—	—	—
Influenza ... ..	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other infectious or parasitic disease ...	2	—	2	—
Cancer, malignant tumours ... ..	36	7	17	12
Tumours, non-malignant or not defined	—	—	—	—
Acute Rheumatism ... ..	—	—	—	—
Diabetes mellitus ... ..	2	1	1	—
Other General Diseases ... ..	1	—	—	1
Meningitis, Diseases of Spinal Cord ...	—	—	—	—
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. ... ..	26	3	15	8
Other Diseases of Nervous System ...	—	—	—	—
Heart Disease ... ..	83	9	45	29
Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	7	—	3	4
Bronchitis ... ..	8	—	4	4
Pneumonia ... ..	4	1	2	1
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	1	—	—	1
Gastric and Duodenal Ulcer ... ..	1	—	1	—
Diarrhœa (all ages) ... ..	1	1	—	—
Appendicitis ... ..	1	—	—	1
Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	3	—	2	1
Other Diseases of Liver ... ..	2	—	2	—
Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	1	1	—	—
Nephritis, Acute or Chronic ... ..	2	1	1	—
Other Diseases of Genito-urinary System	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes ... ..	—	—	—	—
Diseases of Skin and Organs of Movement	1	1	—	—
Congen. Debil., Prem. Birth, Malforma- tion, etc. ... ..	6	—	5	1
Old Age ... ..	2	—	1	1
Suicide ... ..	1	—	1	—
Road Transport Accidents ... ..	3	—	2	1
Other Violence ... ..	3	—	1	2
Causes ill-defined or unknown ... ..	3	—	1	2
<b>All Ages ...</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>72</b>

## A. LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY FUNCTIONS.

### I. Care of Mothers and Young Children.

#### Nursing Establishment.

The Centres and duties of nurses are as follows: —

Area.	No. of Nurses.	Duties				Cars.
West Linton	1	Midwifery.	Home Nursing.	Health Visiting.	School Nursing.	1
Broughton	1	"	"	"	"	1
Innerleithen	1	"	"	"	"	—
Walkerburn	1	"	"	"	"	—
Peebles	2	"	"	—	—	1
Peebles	1	—	—	"	"	1

#### Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics.

No such Clinics are held in the County.

#### Child Welfare Clinics.

- (a) The following Clinics were provided by the Local Authority: —

PEEBLES.—In the County Buildings on Tuesdays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

INNERLEITHEN.—In the Reading Room of the Liberal Club on the second and fourth Thursday of each month from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

WEST LINTON.—In the Community Centre on the second and fourth Thursday of each month from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

	Peebles.	Inner- leithen.	West Linton.
Openings during year ... ..	52	24	22
Average number in attendance per Clinic ...	22	34	7

- (a) Number of children attending—

1. Under one year ... ..	74	43	25
2. Over one year ... ..	80	30	11

- (b) Total number of attendances of children—

1. Under one year ... ..	590	489	112
2. Over one year ... ..	562	326	51

- (b) No Clinics were provided by Voluntary Bodies.

#### Supply of Food and Milk under Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme.

(1) Number of persons supplied with milk and other food preparations ... ..	Mothers	—
	Children	—
(2) Milk—Total quantity supplied (galls.) ... ..	Mothers	—
	Children	—
(3) Other Food Preparations ... ..	Mothers	—
	Children	—
(4) Total cost to Local Authority (2)	...	Nil.
(3)	...	Nil.



## Government Scheme for Distribution of Free or Cheap Milk and Vitamin Preparations.

National Dried Milk and Vitamin preparations are distributed by the Health Visitors and at the following Centres:

PEEBLES—Food Office—Daily, 9 a.m.—4.45 p.m.

Child Welfare Clinic—Tuesday, 2 p.m.—4 p.m.

INNERLEITHEN—Child Welfare Clinic—2nd and 4th Thursday, 2 p.m.—4 p.m.

WALKERBURN—Public School—2nd Thursday of each month.

WEST LINTON—District Council Office—each Tuesday.

STOBO—Post Office—Daily.

TRAQUAIR—Post Office—Daily.

Vitamin preparations only are available from:—

DRUMELZIER—Post Office—Daily.

EDDLESTON—Post Office—Daily.

TWEEDSMUIR—Mrs Thorburn, The Inch, 9 a.m.—5 p.m. Daily.

The number of persons in receipt of free and cheap milk varies from time to time, but the average numbers during the year were: Free milk, nil; Cheap milk, 921.

At the latest stocktaking 34.1% of those eligible for Cod Liver Oil under the Government Scheme of Vitamins Distribution were in receipt of same; 33.1% were taking Cod Liver Oil Tablets; and 35.5% were taking Orange Juice.

### Special Treatment Centres.

No mothers were given special treatment during the year.

#### (1) Teeth.

REPORT BY MR R. P. NEILSON, L.D.S.

Facilities for dental inspection and treatment of pre-school children have now been available to all who so desire for the past five years. It is, therefore, particularly disappointing that the desire for dental attention to this group should be so meagre. It is difficult to understand why this should be the case, especially when one realises that the actual acceptance of treatment rate for school children has steadily and markedly risen each year. The demand rate for treatment of the "under fives" is far below their requirements and indicates that our propaganda in this direction must be intensified.

It has not yet been possible to make provision for dental inspection and treatment of expectant and nursing mothers in the County owing to lack of staff, centres and equipment. It is, however, earnestly hoped that, as soon as the new centres become available, the staffing situation will be adjusted to meet the needs, as this important work must not be undertaken at the expense of the School Service.

## INSPECTION.

				Examined.	Referred for Treatment.
Age	2	...	...	2	1
	3	...	...	7	7
	4	...	...	7	7
				<hr/> 16	<hr/> 15

## TREATMENT.

First Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Second Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Attendances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Fillings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Extractions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Local Anæsthetics	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Silver Nitrate (Howes)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Cavities lined before filling	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Teeth Trimmed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Prophylactic Cleaning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dressings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Sessions devoted to Inspection and Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

### (2) Eyes.

#### PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN REFERRED FOR VISUAL DEFECT.

Cases Referred	Own Oculist	Atten- ded Clinic	Refused Examin- ation	Glasses pre- scribed	No Glasses prescribed
10	—	10	—	4	6

(3) **Ear, Nose and Throat.**—No children treated.

(4) **Other Ailments.**—No children treated.

(5) **Ultra-Violet Light Treatment.**—No children treated.

(6) **Orthopædic.**—No children treated.

## Mother and Baby Homes.

There are no such Homes in the County.

## Residential Nurseries and Children's Homes.

There are no such Homes in the County.

## II. Midwifery Service.

(i) Total number of births occurring in the area during year—that is before correction for mother's residence:

Live Births, 216; Still Births, 1. Total 217.

(ii) Total number of births in (i) occurring in institutions (including private maternity homes), 173.

(iii) Total number of births in (i) occurring at home, 44 (1 set twins).

(iv) Number of births in (iii) classified to show nature of attendance at birth: —

			Cases dealt with under Section 23 (2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947			Other domiciliary cases			Total
			Doctor engaged and present at confinement	Doctor engaged and not present at confinement	Midwife alone (no doctor engag- ed)	Doctor engag- ed	Midwife alone (no doctor engag- ed)	Without doctor or mid- wife	
I. Midwives Employed by									
(a) Local Authority	...	...	33	9	1	—	—	—	43
(b) Voluntary Organisations	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Hospital Boards of Management	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
II. Private practising midwives	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
III. Totals	...	...	33	9	1	—	—	—	43

## Domiciliary Cases.

			1949.	1948.
Number of confinements—				
(a) At Home	...	...	43	55
(b) In Hospital	...	...	3	8

### Cases removed to Hospital because of—

(a) Home conditions	...	...	2	—
(b) Medical Emergency	...	...	1	8
Malpresentation	...	...	1	—

Percentage of confinements conducted by midwife alone	...	...	21%	14%
Percentage of cases admitted to hospital for medical reasons	...	...	2%	13%
Number of Anæsthetists called in	...	...	—	2
Number of Consultants called in	...	...	—	—
Number of Maternity Outfits issued	...	...	3	—

The average number of weeks during which the patients were under observation was 12.

## Medical Aid under Section 22(1) of the Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1915.

Number of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year under Section 22(1) of the Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1915, by a Midwife:—

### (a) For Domiciliary Cases—

(i) Where the medical practitioner had arranged to provide maternity medical services under the National Health Service	...	...	...	...	...	—
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(ii) Others	...	...	...	...	...	—
-------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(b) For Cases in Institutions	...	...	...	...	...	—
-------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---



## Administration of Analgesics.

(a) Number of midwives in practice in the area qualified to administer Analgesics in accordance with the requirements of the Central Midwives Board for Scotland:—

(i) Domiciliary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(ii) In Institutions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

(b) Number of domiciliary midwives who received their training during the year ... .. 1

(c) Number of Sets of Apparatus in use at 31st December, 1949 --

(d) Number on order at 31st December, 1949 ... .. —

(e) Number of cases in which Analgesics were administered by Midwives in domiciliary practice during the year ... .. —

## III. Health Visiting.

	Number Visited during year.					Total Visits.
Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	1	1
Infants	...	...	...	...	456	2,644
Children (1-5 years)	...	...	...	...	597	2,323
Cases of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	71	202
Immunisation against Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	16	16
School Health Service—Follow-up work—						
Cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	133
Medical	...	...	...	...	...	41
Dental	...	...	...	...	...	124
Vision	...	...	...	...	...	29
Others	...	...	...	...	...	26
Cases visited at request of general practitioner	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Cases visited at request of hospital organisation	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

## IV. Home Nursing.

- (i) Number of cases attended by home nurses under arrangements made by the Local Health Authority under Section 25 of the National Health Service Scotland) Act, 1947 ... .. 521
- (ii) Number of visits paid by nurses to these cases ... .. 9,495

## V. Domestic Help.

No Scheme is in operation in the County, but one Home Help was provided for a period of twelve days.

## VI. Vaccination and Immunisation.

### Smallpox Vaccination.

Number Vaccinated during 1949—	Under 5 years.	5-14 years.	Over 14 years.
Typical Vaccinia greatest at 7th-10th day	158	—	4
Accelerated Reaction 5th-7th day ... ..	1	—	—
Greatest Reaction 2nd-3rd day ... ..	—	—	—
No Local Reaction ... ..	8	—	—
* Total ... ..	167	—	4

\* Records for 159 children were returned by General Practitioners.

Number Re-Vaccinated during 1949—	Under 5 years.	5-14 years.	Over 14 years.
Typical Vaccinia greatest at 7th-10th day	—	—	2
Accelerated Reaction 5th-7th day ...	—	—	2
Greatest Reaction 2nd-3rd day ...	—	—	1
No Local Reaction ... ..	—	—	3
Total ... ..	—	—	8
Percentage Vaccinated of those resident in County at end of 1949 ... ..	83	84	

## Diphtheria Immunisation.

	Under 5 years.	5-14 years.	Over 14 years.
Number immunised to end of 1949 ...	831	2455	1756
*Number immunised during 1949 ...	195	16	1
Number given maintenance injection during 1949 ... ..	—	61	1
Percentage immunised of those resident in the County at end of 1949 ... ..	89	90	
Number of confirmed cases of diphtheria in 1949 ... ..	—	1	—
Number of deaths from diphtheria in 1949	—	—	—

\*Records for 154 children were returned by General Practitioners.

Diphtheria antitoxin is provided by the Local Authority to Medical Practitioners free of charge.

## VII. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.

### Tuberculosis.

During 1949, 24 cases of tuberculosis were notified, 18 being respiratory and 6 non-respiratory cases. The trend of notifications since 1935 is shown in the following table: —

	1935-1939.		1940-1944.				
	Av.	Av.	1945.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.
Respiratory ...	6	11	21	18	11	18	18
Non-Respiratory	5	6	9	9	6	3	6
Total ...	11	17	30	27	17	21	24

Although one case was not confirmed this year's figures show that the high incidence has been more than maintained.

### Number of Persons Resident in the Area at 31st December, 1949, who were known to be suffering from Tuberculosis.

Area	Confirmed in 1949.		Total known Cases in Area.	
	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.
Landward ...	9	2	19	8
Peebles ...	7	3	17	8
Innerleithen ...	2	—	7	1
Total ...	18	5	43	17

Age Group	Under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Total
<b>Respiratory.</b>									
Confirmed 1949	M. —	—	—	—	3	3	2	—	8
	F. —	—	—	3	5	—	2	—	10
Total in Area 31/12/49.	M. —	—	—	1	3	5	4	2	15
	F. —	—	1	5	10	7	4	1	28
<b>Non-Respiratory.</b>									
Confirmed 1949	M. 1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	3
	F. —	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Total in Area 31/12/49.	M. —	—	1	3	4	2	1	—	11
	F. —	2	1	—	—	1	2	—	6

### Particulars of persons who died from Tuberculosis in the Area during the Year.

Number of persons who died from tuberculosis ... ..	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Of whom—	6	—	1	—
Not notified or notified only at or after death ... ..	2	—	—	—
Notified less than one month before death ... ..	1	—	1	—
Notified from 1 to 3 months before death ... ..	—	—	—	—
Notified from 3 to 6 months before death ... ..	—	—	—	—
Notified from 6 to 12 months before death ... ..	2	—	—	—
Notified from 1 to 2 years before death ... ..	—	—	—	—
Notified over 2 years before death	1	—	—	—
Number who died within 28 days after discharge from an institution	1	—	—	—
Number who died more than 28 days after discharge from an Institution ... ..	3	—	—	—

### Sanatoria.

	In Sanatoria on 1st Jan., 1949.	Admitted during 1949.	Discharged or died during 1949.	In Sanatoria on 31st Dec., 1949.
<b>East Fortune Unit.</b>				
Males ... ..	1	3	3	1
Females ... ..	3	2	3	2
Children ... ..	1	—	1	—
<b>Drumshoreland Hospital.</b>				
Males ... ..	1	—	—	1
Females ... ..	1	—	1	—
<b>Bangour Hospital.</b>				
Males ... ..	—	1	—	1
<b>Southfield.</b>				
Children ... ..	—	1	1	—
<b>TOTAL</b>				
Males ... ..	2	4	3	3
Females ... ..	4	2	4	2
Children ... ..	1	1	2	—
	7	7	9	5

## VIII. Infectious Diseases.

The following confirmed cases occurred during the year:

		Land- ward Area	Peebles Burgh	Inner- leithen Burgh	Total 1949	Cases not admitted to Hospital	Total 1948
Diphtheria	...	—	1	—	1	—	3
Paratyphoid B.	...	—	—	—	—	—	3
Scarlet Fever	...	6	8	3	17	1	60
Total	...	6	9	3	18	1	66

Four cases were admitted to the City Hospital and 13 to Galashiels Hospital.

## Venereal Diseases.

Patients attend for consultation and treatment at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, where they may be admitted to special wards for in-treatment if necessary.

Examination of specimens is carried out at the Infirmary Laboratory.

Medical Practitioners in the County are supplied with the necessary outfits for taking specimens, which are sent to the Clinical Pathologist, Pathological Laboratory, Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

### Cases Attending Centre.

	S.		G.		SS.		N.S.D.		Nil.		Total		Grand	Attend-	Approx.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total	ances.	No. Still
1949	1	1	3	—	—	—	5	4	7	5	16	10	26	174	16
1948	3	1	3	1	—	—	6	—	2	1	14	3	17	272	23

### 1949.

### 1948.

	Males.		Females.		Total.	Males.		Females.		Total.
Admissions to Hospital	3	—	3	—	3	6	2	8	2	8
Number of days in Hospital	...	...	56	—	56	98	36	134	...	...

One notification was received of Service Personnel being discharged from the Services after having had treatment for venereal disease.

## IX. Mental Health Service.

No special arrangements exist in the County in connection with mental disability in the pre-certification stages. It is hoped that at a reasonably early date facilities will be available for psychiatric examination of both adults and children.

One male mental defective was boarded out with a private guardian, and two female defectives were awaiting admission to Institutions.

The number of cases treated in Rosslynlee Hospital during the year was as follows: —

Admitted	...	...	...	12
Discharged	...	...	...	6
Died	...	...	...	5
Remaining at 31/12/49	...	...	...	43

## X. Nurseries and Child-Minders Regulation Act, 1948.

There were no applications received during the year either for registration of premises or child-minders.

### B. SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

The Report on School Health Services is issued separately.

### C. FOOD SUPPLY.

#### I. Milk.

The number of samples taken during the year was as follows:—

##### A. At Farms.

Certified 27	Tuberculin Tested 334		Ordinary 143		Total 504
<b>Certified—</b>					
No. of Producers ...	3	No. of Samples	27		
Original Samples ...	17	Satisfactory ...	12	Unsatisfactory	5
Repeat Samples ...	10	"	7	"	3
<b>Tuberculin Tested—</b>					
No. of Producers ...	45	No. of Samples	334		
Original Samples ...	274	Satisfactory ...	219	Unsatisfactory	55
Repeat Samples ...	60	"	38	"	22
<b>Ordinary—</b>					
No. of Producers ...	26	No. of Samples	143		
Original Samples ...	124	Satisfactory ...	96	Unsatisfactory	28
Repeat Samples ...	19	"	17	"	2

##### B. At Schools.

No. of Schools ...	18	No. of Suppliers	6		
No. of Samples ...	53	Satisfactory ...	37	Unsatisfactory	16

##### C. At Dairy Shops.

No. of Shops ...	7	No. of Samples	65		
Satisfactory ...	36	Unsatisfactory	29		

##### D. Butter-Fat Samples.

29—All satisfactory.

##### E. Biological Samples (Undesignated Producers).

21—All satisfactory.

The Methylene Blue Reduction Test is carried out in a small milk laboratory installed and equipped in the County Buildings instead of the samples being sent to Edinburgh. Samples for Bacteriological purposes continue to go to the University Laboratory.

#### Certified Producers.

No. of Licences	at 1st January, 1949	=	2
	at 31st December, 1949	=	3

Satisfactory results have been obtained from two producers throughout the year. One producer, holding a Tuberculin Tested Licence, qualified in January for a Certified Licence and has maintained a very good standard during the year. Another producer, however, has had several unsatisfactory samples, due mainly to unsatisfactory labour in



the byre and to mastitis in the herd. This has now been cleared up, a new dairy staff installed, and subsequent samples have proved very satisfactory.

### **Tuberculin Tested Producers.**

No. of Licences      at 1st January, 1949      = 43  
                             at 31st December, 1949      = 45

Three "Ordinary" producers qualified for Tuberculin Tested Licences during the year. One Tuberculin Tested producer was granted a "Certified" Licence. Five farms, holding Tuberculin Tested Licences, changed hands during the year. Two of these changed over twice. Each new tenant, or owner, qualified for a Tuberculin Tested Licence. Thirteen (13) producers have had consistently good results. Samples from eleven (11) producers have had fairly satisfactory results, each with one sample failing to comply with the standard. Twenty-one (21) producers have had inconsistent results from samples taken during the year and more than one unsatisfactory result obtained. No producer was brought before the Health Committee.

### **Standard Producers.**

No Licences have been issued during the year.

### **Ungraded Producers.**

No. of Producers      at 1st January, 1949      = 26  
                             at 31st December, 1949      = 22

Three producers were granted Tuberculin Tested Licences during the year. One producer removed at November. At the end of the year one producer is qualifying for a Tuberculin Tested Licence.

Eight (8) producers had very satisfactory samples throughout the year. Twelve (12) producers each had one unsatisfactory sample and six (6) producers had two or more samples which failed to comply with the standard. The samples were tested by the Methylene Blue Reductase Test at the Laboratory, Peebles, and one or two samples from each producer were also taken for bacteriological examination at Edinburgh University.

### **Dairy Shops.**

Seven shops supply milk to customers throughout the County and Burghs. Three are supplied with bottled milk for distribution from Co-operative Creameries. Three suppliers (one of which supplies two shops) each had several samples which were unsatisfactory. One of these retailers gave up business in September and his successor, granted a Tuberculin Tested Licence at the end of the year, has obtained good results from samples taken since September.

## Schools.

Six (6) dairymen supply these schools. Sixteen (16) samples proved unsatisfactory—nine from one supplier, five from another, and two suppliers each had one unsatisfactory sample. All schools except two are now supplied with Tuberculin Tested milk. The two exceptions are supplied with ungraded milk, which has proved reasonably satisfactory. The supply was sampled for a biological test and proved negative.

## II. Ice Cream.

The following is a note of the position at the end of 1949:

1. **Registrations—**
  - (a) Manufacture—Retailers ... .. 5
  - (b) Retailers only ... .. 7
2. **Unregistered—**  
(Wrapped ice cream only) ... .. 8
3. **Registered by Other Local Authorities—**  
(Distributors of ready-made ice cream—either wrapped or in containers) ... .. 7
4. **Sampling to 31st December, 1949—**  
(Commenced 30th June).

Bacteriological—				Wrapped.	Unwrapped.
Number of samples taken ... ..				10 (7)	15 (6)
"	"	"	(satisfactory) ...	7 (6)	6 (5)
"	"	"	(unsatisfactory)	3 (3)	9 (4)
Chemical—					
Number of samples taken ... ..				6 (5)	11 (6)
"	"	"	(satisfactory) ...	6 (5)	11 (6)
"	"	"	(unsatisfactory)	— (—)	— (—)

Figures in brackets indicate numbers of premises involved in each case.

## III. Meat and Other Foods.

Routine sampling of food supplies was carried out during the year. 117 official and 8 test samples were taken, one test sample being found to be non-genuine, and the retailer being warned. 12 cwts. 7 st. approximately of food were condemned during the year.

Slaughtering operations were conducted in the Public Slaughterhouse in Peebles Burgh, the animals slaughtered during the year numbering:—

Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
584	3401	27	346

7 cattle, 3 calf, 19 sheep, and 4 pig carcasses were condemned, along with approximately 65.75 cwts. of part carcasses, offals and other organs.

The average weight of meat and offal seized per animal slaughtered was:—

Oxen	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
18.8 lbs.	0.35 lbs.	10.37 lbs.	0.95 lbs.

The Detention Officer made 260 visits and the Veterinary Inspector 8 visits.

The Slaughterhouse is kept in a satisfactory condition.

#### IV. Food Poisoning.

There were no outbreaks of food poisoning during the year.

#### V. Nutrition.

No special action was taken in respect of the general nutrition of the population during the year. Despite the general difficulties arising from short supply the nutrition of the community as a whole continued to be satisfactory.

### D. MISCELLANEOUS.

#### Welfare of Blind Persons.

Ascertainment and supervision of blind persons is carried out by the Edinburgh and South-East Scotland Society for Teaching the Blind to Read at their Own Homes.

Age Group		0-4	5-15	16-29	30-39	40-49	50-69	70	Total
Registered in 1949	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	4
Total on Register at 31/12/49	M.	—	—	1	1	2	5	2	11
	F.	—	2	—	1	3	5	7	18

The blind girls under 16 years of age are mentally normal and are in attendance at the Blind Institution.

Two male adults are employed in workshops in Institutions for the Blind.

#### Aged and Infirm.

Ambulant sick poor cases can be admitted to Eildon View Home, Galashiels. The following Table gives details of the Peeblesshire cases treated during the year: —

1.	Total number of admissions	...	...	...	...	—
2.	Total number of discharges	...	...	...	...	1
3.	Total number of deaths	...	...	...	...	—
4.	Average duration of stay of patients included in 2 and 3 (days)	...	...	...	...	198
5.	Number of beds occupied—					
	(a) Average during year	...	...	...	...	6
	(b) Highest	...	...	...	...	7
	(c) Lowest	...	...	...	...	6

#### Hospitals.

##### 1. General.

General cases are admitted to the War Memorial Hospital which has seventeen beds for this purpose.

##### 2. Infectious Disease.

Infectious disease cases from the eastern part of the County are taken to Galashiels Infectious Diseases Hospital, and those from the west to the City Hospital, Edinburgh.



### **3. Chronic Sick.**

These are admitted to Kingsland Hospital, Peebles, which has twenty beds.

### **4. Sanatoria.**

There are no sanatoria in the County, cases of tuberculosis being admitted principally to East Fortune Sanatorium, Bangour Hospital, or Drumshoreland Hospital, Broxburn.

### **5. Maternity.**

Cases are admitted principally to the War Memorial Hospital, Peebles, which has eleven maternity beds.

### **6. Children.**

There are no such Homes or Hospitals in the County.

### **7. Convalescent Homes.**

There are no such Homes in the County.

## **Registration of Nursing Homes.**

There are two Registered Nursing Homes in the County. They have a maximum capacity of eight patients and are well conducted.

## **Ambulance Facilities.**

There are two ambulances in the County, one being stationed in Peebles Burgh and the other at West Linton.

## **Health Education.**

In January, 1949, health films were shown and a talk given in Peebles High and Leithenside Schools, and personal talks by the medical, dental, and nursing staffs as opportunity offered.

## **E. GENERAL SANITATION.**

### **Water Supply.**

The question of the adequacy of the water supply throughout the County and in the Burghs received considerable attention during the year. In the Landward area negotiations with the Department of Health regarding the proposed water supply scheme to Newlands and West Linton were continued. Investigations were continued for a comprehensive supply to the village of Drumelzier. Several private supplies were developed with assistance of grant from the Department of Health. The continued need for increased storage and filtration for the Peebles Burgh supply was stressed.

## Drainage and Rivers Pollution.

Negotiations were continued for the replacement of the existing inefficient sewage disposal works at West Linton.

### Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

#### Inspections.

					Land- ward	Peebles Burgh	Inner- leithen Burgh	Total
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities—								
(a) Number	...	...	...	...	—	35	9	44
(b) Inspections	...	...	...	...	—	60	10	70
(c) Written Notices	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
(d) Prosecutions	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
2. Factories not included in 1, in which Section 7 is enforced—								
(a) Number	...	...	...	...	16	43	21	80
(b) Inspections	...	...	...	...	16	50	30	96
(c) Written Notices	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
(d) Prosecutions	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—

#### Defects.

(a) Found	...	...	...	...	1	5	3	9
(b) Remedied	...	...	...	...	1	4	3	8
(c) Referred to H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
(d) Referred by H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	...	1	1	3	5
(e) Prosecutions	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—

#### Outwork.

Number of Outworkers	...	...	...	...	5	—	—	—
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### Housing.

The number of houses completed and occupied during the year was as follows: —

County Landward	...	...	...	...	30
Peebles Burgh	...	...	...	...	8
Innerleithen Burgh	...	...	...	...	10
					—
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>48</u>

Owing to the lack of repairs during the war years and since the condition of many of the older houses has deteriorated considerably, and, keeping in view the higher standard of habitability now visualised, the number of houses which will ultimately fall to be dealt with under the Housing Acts will be greatly increased in comparison with pre-war estimates.



